

Minutes of the Solid Waste Committee
February 8, 2007

Present: Susan Waite, Recycling Coordinator; Marianne Lorenzelli; Pat Church, Chair; Claire Bertrand; and Lucy McMurrer.

The Minutes of the January 12 meeting were reviewed and accepted with minor changes.

Updates:

Susan reported that Triple T took away dumpsters from Crocker Farm and Fort River Elementary Schools and municipal waste dumpsters have been put in their place. The schools will continue to compost to keep the effort alive and collect data critical to the future of the program (TTT cannot provide weight data). At these schools the compost will temporarily be added to the trash. Susan and/or Claire will speak with Terry at Crocker Farm to ensure that composting is still on-going. Marks Meadow and Wildwood now have smaller composting bins.

Susan gave us an update on the grants she spoke of at the last meeting. She mentioned that she and Bob will work on distributing water conservation information and that the MRF grant check has been received.

Susan also spoke about website updates. The website www.amherstma.gov/recycling has been steadily improving and will continue to be updated and amended.

Comprehensive Planning Committee:

Pat spoke about the Comprehensive Planning Committee. Pat said she suggested Amherst “go green” with buildings, etc., around town. Her subcommittee worked on a statement for the CPC on what they would like to achieve, what their goals should be. Pat, Claire, and Harvey are all on various subcommittees within the Comprehensive Planning Committee, thus ensuring the SWC’s interests will be voiced.

Name Change:

The Committee discussed the original purpose of the Solid Waste Committee and how the focus has somewhat shifted to recycling. The Committee voted unanimously to change the name to the “Recycling and Refuse Management Committee” to better describe the issues with which the Committee deals. Pat will follow up on the procedural details of changing the Committee’s name.

Business Recycling:

The focus of the next meeting will be Business Recycling. Susan will pass along to Amherst schools information about creating a sticker, perhaps a contest to design a sticker, to commend local businesses making an effort at recycling. She may also contact the Hitchcock Center and the Eric Carle Museum in an effort to maximize involvement.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m. The next meeting will be March 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy McMurrer

Solid Waste Committee member